

to increase the funding for the arts and humanities was passed by the House of Representatives. We must continue our commitment to providing the necessary funding for programs that would preserve our nation's environment and natural treasures.

HONORING SHELLY AGARWAL

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shelly Agarwal, a fine young woman and outstanding student from my congressional district in Tarpon Springs, Florida.

Shelly recently earned a perfect score of 36 on her ACT college entrance exam. She was one of only two students in Florida, and 51 nationwide, who answered each of the 215 test questions correctly when she took the test. The national average ACT score is 20.8.

Shelly became the first student from Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa to receive a perfect score on the ACT. She said she was "surprised" by her score and "didn't expect anything that high." However, I think she was being modest because she also scored 1580 out of a possible 1600 on her SAT college placement test.

It is clear that Shelly is a bright and motivated young woman. Unlike many of her peers who are taking the summer months off, she is spending them at the University of Chicago studying molecular biology. She is one of only a half dozen high school students who are conducting research alongside undergraduate and graduate students.

Mr. Speaker, Shelly also owes much of her success to her parents, Sudhir and Usha, who are doctors in one of the counties in my district, and to her brother Siddhartha, who will be a sophomore at Harvard this fall. They encouraged Shelly to excel in school and taught her the importance of getting a good education. I want to commend them for providing the support that all students should be as fortunate to have and congratulate Shelly on her tremendous accomplishments. I am certain that she will succeed in her future educational and professional endeavors.

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF LAKE RIDGE FELLOWSHIP HOUSE

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the 20th anniversary of the Lake Ridge Fellowship House of Woodbridge, Virginia this Saturday, July 19, 2003.

Located on the southernmost edge of Virginia's 11th congressional district, this affordable housing development opened its doors in June 1983. Serving over 100 seniors on fixed incomes, Lake Ridge Fellowship House has grown into a vibrant example of community activism. Four out of five of these seniors are women, many of whom are widows who have

lost a breadwinner's pension and a lifelong companion. Lake Ridge fills a unique niche in the Woodbridge area by supplying elderly residents with a safe environment in which they can enjoy recreational, educational and community-oriented activities.

Lake Ridge is one of only four privately owned fellowship houses in Virginia that are operated by the Fellowship Square Foundation, a subsidiary of the Lutheran Church. Sponsored by the Lutheran Lay Fellowship organization, it is a shining example of how the power of faith is used to fulfill a wide range of needs in our communities.

Lake Ridge provides affordable housing to both independent and mobility-impaired individuals. It provides secure and stable residences for seniors, thereby safeguarding citizens who might otherwise be unable to fully fend for themselves. In addition, Lake Ridge hosts arts and crafts, social activities, and boasts quiet reading alcoves. To better assist its mobility-impaired residents, the fellowship house makes available transportation to and from local shopping areas. Among the most critical services Lake Ridge provides is an around-the-clock emergency call system. Mr. Speaker, Lake Ridge Fellowship House is more than mere housing; it is the foundation of a rich and meaningful way of life for hundreds of senior citizens.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Lake Ridge Fellowship House for providing twenty years of selfless commitment to Northern Virginia, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating their 20th anniversary.

HONORING MARION COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Marion County Young Republicans, in my fifth congressional district of Florida. The Group was just named the Young Republican Club of the Year at the National Federation of Young Republicans' Conference this past weekend in Boston, Massachusetts, and I could not be prouder.

The Marion County Young Republicans was founded just two years ago and has already ascended to great heights, receiving duly earned recognition on a national scale for its endeavors.

The group was instrumental in my election to Congress. Several other lawmakers here in Washington and in Tallahassee owe their positions to this group and to groups like them.

I am pleased to have such an outstanding group of hard-working, young Republicans in my district and am proud of all they have accomplished. In a letter to his members, Chapter President Tim Harding praised the group and reminded them that while this most recent accolade was most certainly an affirmation of success, the group must still rise to meet upcoming challenges and achieve the goals the group has set for itself. It is because of leadership like this that I am confident the Marion County Young Republicans will continue to succeed and do great things for the Republican Party in the state of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the Marion County Young Republicans for all they have achieved. I honor their service and their commitment to the party.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 389, I was inadvertently not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA C. SERENA ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE DICKINSON-IRON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say thank you and pay tribute to one of the hardest working public employees ever seen in my 1st Congressional District.

Barbara Serena retired from the Dickinson-Iron County Health Department in June of this year, after almost 26 years serving the people of this part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan as a public health officer and administrator.

In this capacity, Barbara developed a reputation for hard work that would put even our Congressional colleagues to shame—spending seven day weeks and fourteen to sixteen hour days when needed, in her devotion to the principle that public health services are critically important to the local communities she served.

Barbara was born where she and her husband Terry Shea now live, in Stambaugh, Michigan. She grew up in Watersmeet, about thirty miles west of Stambaugh. Her work ethic developed naturally, under the tutelage and guidance of her father, Ferdinand and mother Margaret Serena. Ferdinand Serena was a longtime U.S. Forest Service employee and the family had deep roots in the Upper Peninsula. Margaret Serena still lives in Iron River, Michigan.

After graduating from the University of Michigan with a B.A. in 1960, Barbara received her Masters in Social Work in 1962 and Masters in Public Health in 1969, both from the University of Michigan. She was a doctoral candidate from 1975 to 1977 at the Columbia University School of Public Health in New York.

From 1962 to 1965, Barbara was a social worker with the State of Michigan Department of Social Welfare in Oakland County, and from 1965 to 1968, she was a clinical social work supervisor at the Hawthorne Center in Northville, Michigan, run by the State of Michigan Department of Mental Health.

She moved to New Jersey and became a social work coordinator at the University of Medicine and Dentistry and New Jersey Medical School in Newark, New Jersey in 1970. She remained there while studying at Columbia University until her return to her home in the U.P. in 1977.

From 1977 until her retirement this year, Barbara Serena served as a public health administrator with the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department in Stambaugh, Michigan. From August 1995 to August 1996, she was the Department's Acting Health Officer. In September 1996 she was named the Department's Health Officer, serving in that capacity until 2002.

Barbara's return to the Upper Peninsula was fortunate for her community and also for Terry Shea, whom she met in 1980 in a crowded restaurant when a friend asked Terry if Barbara could join him at his table. Terry was at that time working TED KENNEDY's presidential campaign in what was then the 11th Congressional District of Michigan.

Throughout Terry and Barbara's long and happy marriage, they have both continued to work in their faith community for families and for the betterment of their community as a whole. It is fair to say that for Barbara, retirement will be as busy as her life has been so far, although both Terry and Barbara hope to have more time for travel. They will intend to remain actively involved in the community and faith based volunteerism that has been a hallmark of their lives.

When I asked Terry what was the most significant thing people in the area think of when they think of Barbara, he said "Her work." That is a lasting legacy, and one that is far from completed.

I congratulate Barbara on her many years of service in public health and wish her well in her retirement. The strength of my northern district is built on the daily efforts of people like Barbara, even though she stands in a special category. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in this special tribute to a very special woman.

HONORING A. LANCE EMORY

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a public servant who has given a great deal not only to his home state of North Carolina, but to his country as a whole.

Since 1969, Mr. A. Lance Emory has been a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). In August, Mr. Lance will retire from the FBI.

He leaves behind a legacy of great achievements and his departure will create quite a void in our nation's highly revered investigative bureau.

A. Lance Emory was born on June 6, 1946 in Greensboro, North Carolina. He graduated from the University of Miami in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in education. He completed his graduate studies in business at Iona College in New Rochelle, New York.

Beginning his career as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in December 1969, his first assignment was the Springfield office in Illinois where he investigated general criminal matters. Just two years later he was transferred to New York City. Mr. Emory spent six busy years investigating organized crime and drug matters in the FBI office in New York.

In 1977, Mr. Emory was transferred back home to the Tarheel state where he joined the Charlotte office. While in Charlotte, he continued investigating organized crime/drug matters and gained extensive experience in the use of undercover techniques.

In 1983, Mr. Emory received the United States Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service for his investigative accomplishments.

In 1985, as a Supervisory Special Agent, Mr. Emory oversaw the Organized Crime, Drug, Interstate Theft and Government Crime programs. He is recognized as a subject matter expert in the organized crime/drug arena and has represented the FBI in numerous forums.

A short tour in the Legal Attache's office in Canberra, Australia followed . . . and that time abroad would lead to an international assignment for Mr. Emory.

In June 1995, Mr. Emory began his assignment as the Assistant Legal Attache in London. His primary responsibilities were for FBI operations in the Nordic countries.

In August 1999, Mr. Emory assumed his present position as Legal Attache London.

When not travelling the world as a world class FBI associate, Mr. Emory tries to find time to work on his golf game as so many North Carolinians do. When not on the links, he spends as much time as he can with his lovely wife, the former Susan Lierk of Alliance, Nebraska.

It is with a sincere heart that I rise today to thank Mr. Emory for his great service for our nation.

Lance Emory, I salute you for your dedication to your country and to the FBI. May God bless you and your wife as you begin your next adventure together. May you wake each morning and enjoy the immense amount of time you now have together . . . and may this new journey be just as exhilarating.

Thank you, Lance Emory. From all of us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was at a meeting with President Bush at the White House and missed the vote on H. Res. 319, on Ordering the Previous Question providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 2691, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TIME FOR THE OLIVE BRANCH TO TAKE ROOT

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a passionate proponent of achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

For too long, the Holy Land has been soaked in blood and scorched by hate. In the last 31 months alone, the devastating conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians has claimed more than 2,700 lives and has shattered countless others.

With so much lost life, it is time to find peace. It is time to turn from old ways and to "beat their swords into ploughshares." It is time for the olive branch to take root.

Thus, I strongly support the so-called "road map," the Mideast peace plan carefully devised by the United States, European Union, United Nations and Russia and firmly backed by President Bush. Representing precious hope for an end to the violence and a final settlement, the road map envisions two states—one for the Israelis and the other for the Palestinians—living side-by-side, both sovereign, secure, free and democratic.

Under the terms and conditions of the road map, the United States rightly assumes its central role of helping to lead the parties along the path to peace. As an honest and balanced broker and mediator between the two sides, the United States must help both to reconcile differences, to accept obligations, and to take the simultaneous steps for progress and peace.

Undoubtedly, the success of the performance-based road map will require the active leadership and involvement of the United States. It will demand the commitment and courage of the Israelis and the Palestinians. It finally will come when each side gives to the other what it wants for itself.

But, since the publication and formal delivery of the road map, the enemies of peace have attempted to derail it. By launching brutal terrorist attacks against Israelis, they attempt to kill not only innocent civilians but also a diplomatic settlement. These saboteurs intend to undermine the Palestinian Authority, to terrorize the Israeli population, and to perpetuate violence and hate. We must not allow them to succeed in putting roadblocks in the road map.

To remove the obstacles and promote the peace, Congress should give its unqualified and unambiguous approval of the road map. Time is too short and the stakes too high for us not to. Failing now to explicitly endorse the international peace plan risks compromising our interests, rallying the recalcitrant and forestalling a new future in the Middle East.

Hence, the resolution before us rightly commends the President for his vision and commitment to a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian dispute. However, it should be even more specific. The resolution ought to expressly support the road map itself and the ongoing efforts within the international community to implement it.

House Resolution 294 correctly insists that the Palestinians must fulfill their primary obligation to crack down on terrorism and violence against the Israelis. Yet, the resolution should be more comprehensive and balanced. It also ought to call on the Israelis to meet their responsibilities under the road map to dismantle illegal outposts and freeze settlements.

The measure properly recognizes and respects Israel's right to defend and protect its citizens against terror. But, H. Res. 294 should be even more insightful. It ought to acknowledge that the security for which Israel longs and surely deserves will be achieved, not by